

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/627,614

Examiner

James H. Blackwell

Applicant(s)

TAKASHIMA, KEIICHI

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to RCE filed 11/17/2006.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 23-24 renumbered to 1-2.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____


Heather R. Herndon

Supervisor, Patent Examination

DETAILED ACTION

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 11/17/2006 has been entered.
2. The priority date is **07/30/2002**.
3. Claims 1-22 were cancelled by the Applicant. Claims 23 and 24 were added by Applicant.
4. Claims 23 and 24 are independent claims.

Allowable Subject Matter

5. Claims 23-24 are allowed.

Reasons for Allowance

6. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The prior art of record, either alone or in combination, fails to teach, suggest, or render obvious the combined limitations of each of the independent claims. In particular, the prior arts attributable to Hitchcock, Rawat, and Girgensohn fail to disclose the

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limitation of a first getting means for getting plural words which are composed of the type specification characters on the basis of the determined kind of each type specification character, by determining whether the type specification character is composing a same word which is composed of the previous type specification character if the determined kind of the type specification character is same as the kind of the previous type specification character, and also by determining whether the type specification character is composing a different word from the word which is composed of the previous type specification character if the kind of the determined type specification character is different from the kind of the previous type specification character.

7. This limitation provides for taking the previously inputted and assigned type information character string (e.g., YYYYMMDD), consisting of type specification characters (e.g., Year, Month, Day all describe formats that the form field is able to receive) for a given form field and “processes” the character string in such a way that it transforms the string into multiple sub-strings by determining, in order beginning from the leftmost (Applicant describes this as the “Top”) character, the characters’ type (Y, M, or D).

8. The “processing” continues until a different type specification character (e.g., M) is encountered at which point the process starts a new substring (Applicant calls these substrings words). Thus, the example stated previously (YYYYMMDD) now would read (YYYY, MMDD). The processing continues for the length of the information character

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string (here that number is eight) to finally yield (YYYY, MM, DD). The length of each substring as well as the total length of the string is also calculated.

9. The result of such a process allows for input data from a database to be "reformatted" to fit the form field format. For example, input data (20011213) would be reformatted as (2001,12,13) and overlaid onto the form field.

10. None of the prior art discloses this first getting means for getting plural words as described above, nor the subsequent processing of the input data as disclosed in the second getting means for getting plural data by dividing the received data into the plural data in order from the top of the received data so that the length of kth gotten data is the same as the number of the type specification character composing the kth word gotten by the first getting means.

11. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

12. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to James H. Blackwell whose telephone number is 571-272-4089. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri.

13. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Heather R. Herndon can be reached on 571-272-4136. The fax phone

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number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

14. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

James H. Blackwell
01/09/2007


Heather R. Herndon
Supervisory Patent Examiner
Technology Center 2100